

Beloved Companion:

We have at various times discussed with you the many phases of the great Religion of the West, Christianity, and we have from time to time also brought out its many benefits and fine points. However, as Occultists and Mystics we cannot but regret that the whole beauty of Western Religion has been denied to the people at large. Only portions of the esoteric teachings are taught, so that we must agree that Christianity as it is practiced today, is one-sided and is not, therefore, a satisfactory source of spiritual inspiration. The Church of today has forgotten the Caballah, wherein are its roots, and the Gnosis which was its flower. Those who altered the original principles of the Church and made it a political force were not Initiates. The true Initiates and Illuminated Ones were in the persecuted sects who were driven from power by fire and sword. If we are content with Mysticism alone, then we are content with a half-truth. "By their fruits, ye shall know them." That certainly applies to the modern Church, for since the Gnosis was eliminated Christianity has borne little fruit. It is stagnating and by its lack of spiritual food is driving its followers away from its teachings.

Think over the accomplishments of the Orthodox Christian Churches for the past two thousand years; think of the present system organized on a strictly financial basis, as the modern Church competes with the theatre, the race track and the dance hall for patronage. Consider the advertising, the extensive social organization of a modern Church, and consider, also, how little of pure spiritual attraction exists. It was hardly for such a manifestation of Christianity that the blood of the martyrs was poured out in times past. The fervor of worship is not there, for it has been driven out, because of leadership being invested in those who are not Adepts. There has been no contact with the Inner Plane sources to renew the spiritual force of the group soul. Ritual has been discarded in favor of entertaining, and even humorous lectures on politics, on finance and an occasional reference to the vague accomplishments of foreign missions.

We can ask ourselves just where the fault lies: why is it there is no holding power in the modern Church? Does the fault lie in the message of the Master Jesus, to which these Churches are ostensibly dedicated? Or does it lie in the misinterpretation of that message and the commercialization of its promulgation? The latter, of course.

If we can look upon Christianity as it is practiced today, as a dying remnant of an esoteric system of former ages, then we can understand its practices as those associated with its decadence. The original inspiration has been lost and instead of the Church automatically attracting all who sincerely wish to fill their consciousness with the blessings of Spirit, it seeks to draw by outlandish attractions the curious and the inquisitive to an empty service. It is not the purpose, it would seem, of a Church to attract; the purpose of the Church is to serve and to satisfy. It should be as a fountain



head of seventh plane force, which is approached freely and happily with a deep gratefulness for the opportunities of spiritual fulfillment which it offers. It should be sacred ground; it should be recognized as a Temple of the Most High, dispensing not only spiritual peace, but Divine knowledge and instruction as well; it should be a representative of God-consciousness on earth, not a meeting house for social activities, nor the polite bickering about the outer concepts of the law, but a Holy of Holies, impregnated with unremitting, indefatigable celestial power.

It is lamentable that there are not thousands delving deeply into the philosophy of the Master's message, absorbing its deeply hidden truths. The Church is largely responsible for this suppression of the message, for it has been satisfied with crumbs from the banquet of truth and has ignored all else. It has even denied the existence of the banquet, preferring to remain an exoteric representative, refusing to acknowledge anything but the most obvious, the most trite and least satisfying aspects of the Christ teaching.

Through the building of false pretenses, the Christianity of the Nazarene has been presented in a warped and bungled fashion. No word is spoken concerning the association of the celestial spheres with life. No word is spoken concerning the method of the creation of the Universe. It avoids, as it were a plague that most vital subject of human relationship, Polarity. It timidly hesitates to apply its teachings to international relationships.

Are we to believe that this message of the West is devoid of counsel on these topics? Are we to believe that His message is faulty, incomplete and inconsistent when compared with the demand of life. No. We assert that these truths are available, this conception is prepared for our use, although it has been suppressed either through ignorance or the desire to keep the intelligence and the development of the Western Mind subservient to a minority of self-appointed spiritual guides.

With surprising inconsistency, the modern Church has pointed a finger at its followers, accusing them of hypocrisy and lack of faith in their neglect of the Church. Had the Church anything to offer of genuinely transmitted Inner Plane force there would be no need to harangue empty pews, for there would be nothing that could keep the throngs away from the Eternal Source of Supply. Their championing of an empty cause is pitiable in its ineffectuality and its futility, especially so as the esoteric truths have not been lost and could be again revived were it not for the misplaced prejudice of orthodox leaders. Their cause could be rejuvenated were they to illuminate their efforts with the distinct and elevated teaching resting at their finger tips. But they quarrel over their dry crumbs, refusing the sustenance of the heavily laden and richly endowed table of supply.

The proper religions of the day are designed for the most illiterate minds, the most unresponsive, unthinking, indolent, un-



questioning, uninquisitive states of consciousness. For a young soul fumbling for a knowledge of higher consciousness their trite teachings are aptly fitted, but they offer nothing for the twentieth century intelligence, alert and eager for answers to each and every one of its queries.

Another breach of the trust placed in them is the Church's dogmatic stand of authority and their bigotted self-centeredness. Not only do they uphold their own importance above all other sects, but they label all other creeds not only as unauthorized but as actually damning to the soul. This attitude alone is seriously deleterious to their accomplishments, for any in their group who manifest enough courage to investigate other religions for themselves are astonished to find how closely associated each and every one of them are.

It appears that churches if they be reflecting Inner Plane Law should be cooperative, they should be enveloped in the investigation and the enlightenment of their own doctrines and principles, gladly accepting the contributions which other religious sects make to the revelation of God-consciousness. It is not to be wondered at that those souls who stray from the confines of the modern church discover in Occult Christianity the assimilation and the harmony which they had sought, but never found, before. It is with gratitude and with a sense of completion that they note that after all the Christ's message was not piecemeal, garbled and constraining, but that it does apply to the twentieth century and does meet their every need, their every question and their every demand. They who have sought to look upon their brothers in truth, those following a different pathway than themselves, as heathens and lost souls see them as they actually are in the light of companions striving toward the same Goal. Christ's message is dignified by observing it in its relationship to other messages. From the Christian textbook, the Bible, the dust of many ages is cast aside. Instead of having the Bible pointed out to them as a book of Guidance, its pages are actually opened and they are taught how to see, how to study and how to understand its meaning.

There may develop a change in the Church, or the needs of the people may automatically refute its claims, destroying its present false principles to institute a world-wide movement for esotericism. This will come about gradually in response to the unshackling of the soul of man. Here and there are those who are aligned with esoteric orders, who appreciate the inner truths. They are preserving the ancient teachings, preparing themselves to serve in a larger capacity when their talents and their faculties are required. Verily, it has been written for us, "For now we see through a glass darkly; but then face to face; now I know in part; but then I shall know even as also I am known."

In the Bonds of the Eternal Brotherhood.